

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB2005/000700

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C07K7/06 C07K14/47 C07K14/435 C07K16/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DICKINSON D P ET AL: "cDNA cloning of an abundant human lacrimal gland mRNA encoding a novel tear protein." CURRENT EYE RESEARCH. APR 1996, vol. 15, no. 4, April 1996 (1996-04), pages 377-386, XP009035462 ISSN: 0271-3683	17, 19, 44-46
A	in particular see Fig. 1-2 and page 383-384 the whole document ----- -/--	1-56



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/06/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2005/000700

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FIRLA BEATE ET AL: "Extracellular cysteines define ectopeptidase (APN, CD13) expression and function" FREE RADICAL BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE, vol. 32, no. 7, 1 April 2002 (2002-04-01), pages 584-595, XP002293336 ISSN: 0891-5849 the whole document -----	1-8, 23, 50-56
A	EP 1 216 707 A (PASTEUR INSTITUT) 26 June 2002 (2002-06-26) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-56
A	WO 98/37100 A (ROUGEOT CATHERINE ; PASTEUR INSTITUT (FR); ROUGEON FRANCOIS (FR)) 27 August 1998 (1998-08-27) the whole document -----	1-56

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 57

Reach-through compound:

Claim 57 relate to the use of an "agent" that "modulates the interaction between endogenous BPLP protein and a membrane metallopeptidase".

As such, present claims 57 relate to a "use of a compound" only defined by reference to its potential interaction with different polypeptide and identified using screening methods.

The claim covers the use of all products having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 and 6 PCT for none such products. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity.

A meaningful search cannot be established because it is not possible to determine if any of the presently known substances is falling under the terms of these "modulators" use claims.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2005/000700

Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, the international search was carried out on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - ☒ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - ☒ in written format
 - ☒ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - ☒ contained in the International application as filed
 - ☒ filed together with the International application in computer readable form
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purpose of search
2. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
3. Additional comments:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/000700

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 57
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2005/000700

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1216707	A	26-06-2002	EP 1216707 A1	26-06-2002
			AT 288763 T	15-02-2005
			CA 2431913 A1	04-07-2002
			CA 2431916 A1	04-07-2002
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			CN 1482918 A	17-03-2004
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			EP 1343519 A2	17-09-2003
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			WO 02051435 A2	04-07-2002
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			AU 6721998 A	09-09-1998
			CA 2281912 A1	27-08-1998
			WO 9837100 A2	27-08-1998
			EP 1007566 A2	14-06-2000
			US 2002198361 A1	26-12-2002
			US 2003195155 A1	16-10-2003
			US 2004047805 A1	11-03-2004